The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretation of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Our whole social life is in essence but a long, slow striving for the victory of justice over force.—John Galsworthy.

WHOLE NO. 1284 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1935 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 25, NO. 47

EDITORIALS

Better Late Than Never

The New York State Tax Commission has begun legal proceedings to collect back franchise taxes, interest and penalties totaling $467,299.83 from three poultry concerns chartered by the State of New Jersey but conducting most of their operations in New York City.

The scheme, uncovered by Thomas E. Dewey, special prosecutor in New York City to locate racketeers, is a cleverly conceived interlocking outfit, which it is claimed maintains a monopoly of the poultry handling business in the nation's metropolis.

According to information developed by Mr. Dewey, the New Jersey Coop Company provides crates or coops used to deliver poultry from trains to slaughtering concerns and retail establishments. The New York Live Poultry Trucking Company provides the trucks used in transporting the poultry. The New York Live Poultry Trucking Holding Company owns the trucks. All three concerns have the same officers and operate from Hoboken, N. J.

Federal regulation of the live poultry industry in New York City is about to become effective, under which dealers will be required to have a Federal license. This procedure was recently demanded by Mayor La Guardia and Commissioner of Markets W. F. Morgan at the hearing in Washington urging Federal supervision of the industry. Mr. Morgan declared that poultry rackets and monopolies "extorted over $2,000,000 from shippers, dealers and workmen in New York in 1934" and that "by the time this reached the housewife, the figure is more than $5,000,000."

The alleged failure of these three concerns to pay franchise taxes dates back to 1923—twelve years. Of course this 1935 determination to collect the taxes is creditable, but the remarkable thing is that with pressing needs for money to pay municipal expenses New York City authorities should permit three plainly visible concerns of this subversive type, operating publicly, to go untaxed for such a long period.

Prison Goods Curbed

The decision of J. R. McCarl, Comptroller General of the United States, that no part of the $4,880,000,000 work relief fund may be used to purchase goods made by convict labor will be approved by all progressive citizens. His ruling upheld an order made by the Procurement Division of the Treasury last August that the big Federal fund was intended "to provide relief, work relief and to increase employment by providing for useful projects," and therefore none of the appropriation could be paid out for goods manufactured in prisons.

The question came before the Comptroller General in the case of a 60-cent brush manufactured in a Federal prison and purchased for the United States Army.

Although Mr. McCarl's decision was made in connection with goods purchased in Federal penal institutions, it was interpreted as being broad enough to include the products of every prison in the country, whether Federal, State or municipal.

Under Federal law, the Government is required to buy the products of Federal prisons to the extent for which it has use for them, if they can be supplied. Comptroller General McCarl decided that this Federal statute does not apply to the $4,880,000,000 emergency relief appropriation measure.

When Judges Disagree

The fact that constitutional rights are not determined by the letter of constitutions but by the individual beliefs of judges regarding the rights people should enjoy is again clearly demonstrated by two judicial decisions in connection with the validity of the law recently enacted by the New York State Legislature prohibiting certain instances price cutting by sellers.

The law was aimed at "loss leaders," a term applied to price cuts designed to lure customers to a store but always with the intention of making up the loss by the sale of other goods at a profit.

Under the New York law the manufacture of a trade-marked article sold in competition with similar articles is permitted to fix a resale price for his product. If one retailer contracts not to sell the product below the specified price, that price must be maintained by other retailers even though they are not parties to the contract.

New York City department stores which apply the policy of cut-throat competition violated the law with impunity. The case involving the R. H. Macy Company, a large department store, is a good illustration of this cutting policy, which the law sought to prevent. Doubleday Doran Company, Inc., book publishers, contracted with Doubleday Doran Books, Inc., its retail agency, to sell certain books for $2, $3 and $1.50, respectively. The Macy Company, in conformity with its "loss leader" plan, sold the books for $1.76, $2.64 and $1.31, respectively. The retail agency sought an injunction to restrain the company from this price cutting. Other retail establishments sought to restrain other cut-throat department stores from applying the "loss leader" plan.

One of these injunction cases was heard by Supreme Court Justice Philip A. Brennan, in Kings County. With years of study of the New York State constitution as his background, Justice Brennan decided the Fair Trade Act was in harmony with the principles of the constitution and granted the injunction.

Another injunction case was heard by Supreme Court Justice Frederick P. Close. With years of study of the New York State constitution as his background, Justice Close decided the law was unconstitutional and refused to grant the injunction. The cases will now go to the New York Court of Appeals, which will very likely hand down a split decision.

The anomaly of the situation is that New York Justices who have devoted most of their lives to studying the constitution of that state diametrically differ as to the constitutionality of a law designed to enable a publisher to prevent cut-throat merchants from destroying a fair market for his products. When constitutional experts differ on such a fundamental question, the layman is certainly at a loss as to what his rights really are. Evidently the phraseology of the New York constitution, as well as the phraseology of other state constitutions, should be clarified.

FEDERAL AID FOR JOBLESS MUST BECOME PERMANENT, MAYOR LA GUARDIA SAYS

Claims Installation of Labor-Displacing Machinery and Methods by Industrial Leaders Means Millions of Unemployed After Complete Recovery.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Former President Hoover's demand that the Federal Government turn the millions of unemployed back to State and local governments for support was strongly criticized as "simply unthinkable and impossible" by Mayor La Guardia of New York City in an address before the United States Conference of Mayors here, which was attended by over 100 city executives.

In his report as representative of the Mayors on appointment Roosevelt's advisory committee on allotments, Mr. La Guardia opened the conference with a keynote speech in which he expressed the belief that there will be many millions of jobless after business has recovered its normal condition, and that the problem of relief is so great that continued Federal participation in handling the cost is necessary.

"I state from my experience and from contacts with many of you," he said, "that any idea that the Federal relief program can stop abruptly on July 1 of next year is simply unthinkable and impossible. We have to speak out. The responsibility is ours.

"If any one expects a return to the old normal he simply does not know conditions or refuses to inform himself.

"Has Job-Destroying Machinery

"With technological displacement, with labor-saving devices in agriculture as well as in industry, we must be prepared to meet the new normal which means that with a complete recovery of business and industry we will still have several million employable men and women unable to find gainful, permanent employment. There is no question about that.

"Now, then, it takes time to adjust or to make the necessary adjustment to meet this new normal. We are on our way to do it. The Social Security Act is the first step in that direction, by providing unemployment insurance and old-age pensions. Congress will be asked to have uniform child labor laws, in order to take from the other side of the ledger a large number of children who have been displacing heads of families.

Problem Is National

"I want to make a special appeal to every one of you to realize that we cannot solve the economic problems of the country by local measures or even new policy. It must be national. Massachusetts and New Jersey and New York are helpless if they protect their childhood from being exploited in the mills and factories while permitted in other States with the encouragement that children of tender years are working eight to ten hours in those mills.

"But I say it will take time before this adjustment to the new normal will have its effect. We must pass 48 unemployment insurance laws in 48 legislatures before the full effect of that can be felt. The same is true of old-age pensions. We are still a far distance from accomplishing the complete control of child labor, and in the meantime we must provide directly face to face with the unemployed.

"Now then, if it were not for the Federal aid I don't know what any of us could do.

"July first will be upon us before we realize it. Now is the time to prepare for it. Congress will convene in a few weeks."

CALIFORNIA UNIONS HIT LOW "SECURITY WAGE"

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The "security wages" being paid on WPA projects in California are not regarded by organized labor in that State as ample to provide living necessities and are detrimental to the wage standards established by labor.

Such were the conclusions of a recent conference in San Francisco of representatives of labor councils of California, where it was determined to conduct a strenuous fight against the low "security wages."

The conference was called by President Edward D. Vandeleur of the State Federation of Labor and was attended by a large number of representatives from all sections of the State.

A committee was appointed to coordinate efforts in the State campaign to maintain prevailing wages as follows: Edward D. Vandeleur, Peter C. MacDonald, Paul Scharrenburg, J. W. Russell, C. J. Haggerty, J. F. Canablano, M. B. King, Michael Casey, Don Cameron, R. E. Mercer, E. D. Barry, W. W. Patterson and Chester Nagaly. An executive committee with full power to act was named as follows: Elsey J. Vandeleur, Paul Scharrenburg and Frank C. MacDonald.

A strong resolution covering the matter of "security wages" and the necessity for maintaining prevailing wages was unanimously adopted. Labor councils of the State are being urged to organize, so as to carry on the conference campaign. The resolution declared that the WPA maximum wage of $55 a month for unskilled labor, $85 a month for skilled labor and $94 a month for professional and technical labor "is not a living wage but an unjust wage to be paid American workmen."

FARMERS PAID $71,612,000 IN TWO MONTHS BY AAA

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Farmers in the United States received $71,612,000 in benefit payments from the Agricultural Adjustment Administration during July and August, according to an official announcement here.

For the first two months of the fiscal year total AAA expenditures reached $89,111,906. It was estimated that processing tax collections, from which the benefits are paid, would total $12,-499,582, compared to $23,956,647 collected in August, 1934.

Benefit and rental payments in the two months of July and August were divided as follows: Corn-hogs, $36,289,-764; wheat, $13,347,851; sugar, $16,682,-678; cotton, $8,261,344; tobacco, $2,-194,065; rice, $2,446,629.

900 Marble Workers Strike in Pay Clash

Employes of Vermont Marble Company Demand Union Recognition and Living Wages—Weekly Pay Checks of $4.20 Cited.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Barre, Vt.—A strike of 900 marble workers representing the entire Rutland marble belt was declared following the refusal of the Vermont Marble Company to grant an agreement demanded by the Quarry Workers' and Marble Workers' International Unions. The strike followed an earlier walkout of quarry men at Danby, West Rutland and Florence, Vermont, and Local No. 94 of the Marble Workers' Union.

In a statement explaining the conditions which resulted in the strike, Joseph E. Lawson, secretary-treasurer of the Quarry Workers' International Union of North America, said:

"Negotiations between representatives of the Quarry Workers' International Union of North America, the International Association of Marble, Slate and Stone Polishers, Rubbers and Sawyers, and the Vermont Marble Company not having resulted in an agreement covering wage increases, the workers representing the entire Rutland, Vermont, marble belt met on Monday, November 11, and voted not to return to work.

"On October 16 approximately 110 men walked out at the Vermont Marble Company's Danby quarry, negotiations taking place immediately thereafter. Other union members voted, on advice of union officials, to remain at work pending the outcome of negotiations and also provided the company did not attempt to replace the Danby strikers.

Company Refuses Wage Agreement

"Several conferences have taken place since October 21. As a result of these conferences an agreement covering hours and overtime rate, rotation of shifts, grievance and arbitration clauses, prevention of dismissals, etc., have been arrived at and at joint meetings of the unions involved was unanimously accepted by the unions.

"The Vermont Marble Company officials refused to consider signing the agreement, stating that as it only concerned 'residentials' such action was not necessary. However, an increase in wages and a signed agreement are what the unions demand in effecting a settlement of the present strike in the Vermont marble belt.

Low Wages Cited

"The following table shows the comparison of wages paid in the Vermont marble belt as compared with wages paid for similar type of work in the Massachusetts marble belt, where a majority of workers are covered by union contracts:

	Vermont Company	Barre
Laborers	37½c	50c
Quarrymen	42c	62c
Channel runners	47c	67½c
Power men	42c	66½c
Crane operators	42c	75c
Boxers	40c	75c
Chainmen	37½c	75c
Cleaners	47c	75c

Strong Picket Lines on Duty

"Despite bad weather conditions on the first day of the strike, strong picket force was on duty picketing the Vermont Marble Company's plants at Proctor, West and Center Rutland, Florence and Danby, Vermont. There was no violence as picketing began.

"The 85 deputy sheriffs brought in by the Vermont Marble Company found time hanging heavily on their hands.

"The workers in the Vermont marble industry, where the marble for the new United States Supreme Court Building was quarried, do not earn enough to provide decent living standards for their families.

"For example, one worker reports that his pay check for a 35-hour week, after the company had deducted house rent, light, water rent, etc., amounted to $4.20.

"These are the present conditions. One can readily realize what the workers were up against prior to May, 1934, when the company granted a 15% per cent increase.

"The above conditions fully justify the action taken by the employes of the Vermont Marble Company.

Seniority Cause Denied

"A press release from Rutland credits the strike as having made a statement to the effect that if the Vermont Marble Company would grant seniority rights and other conditions, the unions were willing to waive a proposal for a wage increase.

"No such statement has been issued by me in behalf of the unions involved in the present controversy. Seniority applies to a certain extent in the rehiring of men who have been temporarily laid off and is one of the articles contained in the agreement covering all other conditions which was unanimously accepted by the workers on November 4.

"An increase in wages and a signed agreement are the things the unions demand in effecting a settlement of the present strike in the Vermont marble belt."

Swope Wants Job Insurance Cost Collected from Labor

By A. F. of L. News Service.

New York, N. Y.—Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric Company, urged that the social security legislation enacted by the first session of the Seventy-fourth Congress at a reunion luncheon of the War Industries Board here.

Mr. Swope was especially severe in his criticism of the unemployment insurance section of the Social Security Act because the tax to finance it is levied entirely upon the employer.

Although it is generally admitted that the millions of unemployed in America are in their helpless position because employers have substituted machinery for the labor of men and women, Mr. Swope insisted that the workers, who are in no way responsible for the anti-social employment policy of those who own and control business, should be assessed to pay a portion of the cost of their insurance, which policy he said, has been adopted in every other country in the world except the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

75 PER CENT OF RELIEF COST IS PAID BY U. S.

Three and One-Half Billion Dollars Expended In Six Months, Hopkins Says—Hits Sales Tax As Levy on Poor.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—An impressive picture of the amount which the Government is compelled to pay for unemployment relief through the refusal of employers to apply the 30-hour week and thus provide jobs for the jobless was presented by Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Relief Administrator, in his report to President Roosevelt, that from January, 1933, through January, 1935, the Federal Government had paid $3,-534,000,000 out of a total relief bill for the United States amounting to $3,-\$12,946,735. Of this amount state governments contributed only $454,519,-964, and local governments $584,189,-038.

Three-fourths from Government

According to Mr. Hopkins' report the total cost of unemployment relief in April, May and June, 1935, was $646,-399,172. Of this amount the Federal Government paid three-fourths, or $479,-76,3 per cent. Local governments expended 12.5 per cent and state governments 12.5 per cent.

One of the significant points in the Relief Administrator's report was that six states had no state funds for unemployment relief during the five years ending June 30, 1935. The recreant states are: Florida, Georgia, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota and South Carolina.

Masses Hit by Sales Tax

The significant extent to which property owners in the various states have shifted the cost of relieving the unemployed and other destitute persons of the masses of the people is revealed by the statement in Mr. Hopkins' report to the President that 14.1 per cent of state relief expenditures for this purpose were paid by sales taxes, which he attacked as a levy on the poor and at the same time said that Governor Alf Landon of Kansas had balanced the budget of his state by "taking it out of the hides of the people."

ILLINOIS HOUSE PASSES OLD-AGE PENSION BILL

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Springfield, Ill.—The Illinois House of Representatives adopted the administration bill providing relief for the aged by the emphatic vote of 134 to 6.

The measure, as finally sent to the Senate as soon as it passed the House, provides that persons 65 years old or over may be paid pensions of $30 a month after January 1, 1936, provided they lack other means of support.

The Roof-and-Home bill was among the first measures passed by the House after Governor Horner convened a special session of the Legislature.

The chief reason for the session was stated to be enactment of laws to provide full cooperation with the Federal Government, particularly in the matter of assistance to blind persons and dependent children. Illinois already has a law providing for assistance to aged persons, but is expected to cooperate fully with the Federal Government.

The specified 18 subjects to be given special consideration include the following: Relief of the unemployed men and women;

Assistance to needy aged persons.

Administration of aid to needy blind persons and dependent children.

Unemployment insurance.

Safety and regulation of traffic upon the highways, including the examination and licensing of drivers of motor vehicles.

Annuity and benefit funds for employes of Boards of Election Commissioners.

Interstate compacts for the prevention of and punishment for crime.

The child and general welfare laws, including the regulation of hazardous conditions in factories, mercantile establishments, mills and workshops.

WOMAN'S TYPO AUXILIARY X-MAS SEAL FOR OLD-AGE HOME HAS 2 UNION LABELS

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The Christmas Seal sold by the Woman's Auxiliary section of the Woman's International Auxiliary to the International Typographical Union for the purpose of aiding in the establishment of a home for aged members of the Woman's International Auxiliaries throughout the United States and Canada has the honor of carrying two union labels.

The seal is the size of a postage stamp. It has some of the original printing on the back. The words "Christmas Greeting" appear in the center, while the skilled and industrial union labels are in the lower corners.

The home for the aged women will be located in Denver, Colo.

Mrs. Mary Ball, chairman of the Home Fund Christmas Seals, said the great value of the seals is the fact that they are issued under union conditions. They should be bought, she declared, by "union members and union-earned money."

The seals are sold like the tuberculosis and Red Cross seals and at the same rate, $1 per sheet. They may be obtained from the Washington headquarters of the Home Fund Christmas Seals, 114 C Street S. E.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES IN SEATTLE ORGANIZE

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The first charter for a local union composed of municipal employees to be granted by the American Federation of Government Employes, a direct labor union, has been given jurisdiction over municipal, county and state employes, has been established by municipal employes of Seattle, Wash.

The charter request was sent in by National Vice President Perry S. Myers, of the Seattle district. The union, known as Federal Labor Union No. 1001, has been organized by municipal employes and others, all municipal, county and state employes' lodges will be invited to immediately becoming affiliated with 1001. The Federal employes lodges begin with No. 2.

Temporary officers of the Seattle Municipal Employes' Lodge No. 1001 announced as follows: Edwin M. Hill, president; George W. Lewis, secretary, and Charles H. Bates, treasurer.

Green Supports Curb on Shipment Of Materials Used in War to Italy

Danger to Ships Carrying Supplies Stressed by A. F. of L. Head—Says Seamen Should Discourage War Traffic.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, placed the labor movement squarely on record against the further shipment of materials useful in war to Italy in a statement calling upon business men to heed President Roosevelt's declaration that such shipments are an open violation of the spirit of the Neutrality Act.

Firm Labor Policy Visioned

Bluntly warning industry that "the advice of the President ought to be carried out in spirit and to the letter in executing the neutrality law," Mr. Green declared there was not the slightest guarantee of the safety of American seamen on vessels loaded with war materials for Mussolini's government.

Taken in connection with the declaration of the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor denouncing Italy as "an outlaw nation which has attacked a people in order to enslave," the statement should refuse to assist commercially, financially or in any other manner," and approving the policy relative to Italy's attack on Ethiopia taken by President Roosevelt, Mr. Green's statement was interpreted to mean that organized labor was prepared to take aggressive steps to carry out its stand for effective neutrality.

Keep America Out of War

Pointing out that the Federation's policy was founded on the desire to keep the United States out of the war and to protect American seamen, Mr. Green emphatically declared that "we must discourage labor on the part of any people," he said, "ought to remain off ships likely to be endangered, and industry should protect our seamen from the danger they must face if these shipments are continued.

He added that "the seamen should do all they can to discourage the shipment of goods to Italy," and suggested that organized labor also take more drastic steps if industry refused to cooperate with the President in applying the Neutrality Act.

Attack On Steel Company Unions Opened By Labor Relations Board

Hearing on Petition of Iron and Steel Workers' Union for Election of Collective Bargaining Agent by Wheeling Steel Company Employes Brings Strong Government Defense of Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act, Challenged by American Liberty League Lawyer.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The case of the Wheeling Steel Corporation which was heard by the National Labor Relations Board here beginning November 18 was the first case under the Wagner-Connery Labor Disputes Act involving the iron and steel industry and likewise the first election case to be heard by the Board.

The lodges of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, which filed the petition for an election of a collective bargaining representative, were represented by Charlton Ogburn.

Edward J. Reed, one of the 58 lawyers on the Lawyer's Committee of the American Liberty League, represented the Wheeling Steel Corporation. More than one year ago Mr. Reed successfully defended the Wirtz Steel Company in the famous Wirtz case. The department councils of the corporation were represented by Edmond Toland, of Washington, D. C.

Interstate Commerce Affected

Robert B. Watts, special counsel for the Labor Relations Board, opened the case, directing himself to the question of the Board's jurisdiction.

Until the Board has ruled on the validity of the Wagner Act by Mr. Reed and Mr. Toland, the Board's special counsel, however, has introduced in evidence many skillful exhibits, established the extent to which the operations of the corporation affected interstate commerce. By direct examination he carefully developed that there was a constant flow of commerce across state lines into the processes of the Wheeling Steel Corporation and then out again to the automobile and other centers which constitute the market for the company.

Production Is Steady Stream

He stressed the point that commerce is affected because there is this steady stream of raw materials flowing it at one end of the operations and finished products flowing away from the consuming centers. Commerce is affected because the freight cars of the Norfolk and Western and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads are handled within the boundaries of the plant by the employes of the Wheeling Steel Corporation. Commerce is affected by the shipments of semi-finished as well as finished steel. Commerce is affected by the supplies for operation and maintenance which are furnished to the railroads by the Wheeling Steel Company.

State Lines Are Crossed

From 30 to 90 per cent of the incoming and outgoing shipments of this company cross state lines. Approximately 80 per cent of the Portsmouth business of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and of the Norfolk and Western Railroad is the business of the Wheeling Steel Corporation. Many of these facts are conceded by the company and yet it is contended that the conditions are not of such a nature as to be subject to regulation under the commerce clause of the Constitution.

Corporation Refuses to Bargain

It was shown through direct examination of Secretary-Treasurer Leonard of the Amalgamated Association that amicable relations had existed with the predecessors of the Wheeling Steel Corporation for 40 years. The unrest among the employes did not develop until the company refused to bargain collectively with the duly chosen representatives of the Amalgamated Association.

The company unions were represented by counsel, who conscientiously followed in the footsteps of Mr. Reed in every objection which was taken in that portion of the hearing which dealt with the conduct of the company officials, and then endeavored to establish that the company union was a legitimate agency for collective bargaining negotiations with the Wheeling Steel Corporation.

Ogburn Attacks Company Unions

Charlton Ogburn, counsel for the Amalgamated, through his witnesses brought to the Board a clear picture of the intense feeling which has been developed throughout the plant between groups of employes because of the rivalry existing between the company-dominated union and the lodges of the Amalgamated Association.

The company unions were represented by counsel, who conscientiously followed in the footsteps of Mr. Reed in every objection which was taken in that portion of the hearing which dealt with the conduct of the company officials, and then endeavored to establish that the company union was a legitimate agency for collective bargaining negotiations with the Wheeling Steel Corporation.

REPEAL OF SALES TAX LAW URGED BY CALIFORNIA LABOR

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Sales taxes, which hit working people hardest of all, have proven extremely unpopular in California as elsewhere, and there is every indication of effort at repealing the existing law.

With this definite object in view, Edward D. Vandeleur, president of the California State Federation of Labor, announced the launching of a State-wide campaign.

The recent convention of the State Federation, in San Diego, again endorsed the increasingly popular Raisen Amendment, which would exempt the first $1,000 valuation of all improvements and repeal the sales tax. A concerted vigorous campaign in support of this amendment will be carried on by the State Labor Body in cooperation with other interested organizations and individuals, throughout the State.

UNION LABEL GOODS SHOW IS SUCCESS IN ST. LOUIS

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The third annual Union Industrial Exposition, held recently in St. Louis, Mo., was attended by many thousands of people and proved a marked success.

The exposition, which is gradually gaining some national as well as local fame, has been sponsored for each of the last three years by the St. Louis Union Label Trades Section, assisted by local central labor organizations.

Thirty-eight booths displayed the products of organized labor to the general public. There were also many instructive and interesting in appearance. Forty-five manufacturers were furnished able prizes as attendance prizes. Among the prizes were a suit of clothes, four tons of coal, furniture, tobaccos and many others too numerous to mention. Those who left early and won attendance prizes were notified by mail by Secretary Joyce. The exposition is a non-profit making enterprise conducted in the interest of union-made products and of union services.

RAILWAY CLERKS FAVOR REAL UNIONS

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—"Company unions" are going down to defeat with consistent regularity, by voting for collective bargaining representatives by employes of the nation's railroads.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks reports victories by votes by employes of the Santa Fe Railroad and the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, in both of which instances a "company union" was put forward in opposition. Employes of the Duluth Union Depot and Transfer Company provided the third winning battle of ballots in one month for the union.

Only in one instance has a company union won out recently, and that by a narrow margin, when the steel-controlled Duluth, Missabe & Northern Railway "company association" beat the Brotherhood union by 195 to 124.

CUSTOM TAILORS REACH PERFECT ORGANIZATION

By A. F. of L. News Service.

New York, N. Y.—Custom tailors of New York and Brooklyn have won a decisive victory, following a general strike, which lasted just one week after a telephone conference on call of the New York Joint Board.

The Manhattan Merchant Tailors' Association agreed to the union's demand for a 10 per cent wage increase, and this action was immediately followed by the Brooklyn Merchant Tailors' Association.

About 400 workers were out and nearly all of these have returned to work. Independent merchant tailors following the lead of the associations are signing up with the Settlement Committee.

It is said that, for the first time in history, this branch of the clothing industry in New York is now completely organized and workers are reported as well pleased with results being accomplished.

WOMEN WORKERS VICTIMIZED BY CANADIAN WAGE BOARD

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Toronto, Ontario, Can.—It was announced at the Parliament Buildings here that an amendment permitting employers to pay lower wages to women workers than are paid to men had been put into the Ontario cloak and suit wage and hour agreement.

The new rule, this statement said, will permit employers to pay skilled women operators minimum wage rates 20 per cent below the skilled male operators. In the semi-skilled grade, the women's wages can be 10 per cent less than the men's.

A saving clause declares that equal wages shall be paid to men and women when both turn out equal work.

It was announced that an identical wage agreement had been made in the province of Quebec.

ATLANTA A. & P. STORES REMODELED BY UNION MEN

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Atlanta, Ga.—The ability of organized labor to secure higher wages was well illustrated here recently in the controversy with the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company over the remodeling work on the company's stores.

At first the company paid the workers only from 40 to 60 per cent of the organized building trades scale. The Central Labor Union joined with the building trades in opposing this policy.

The combined action was so effective that the company took all non-union workers off the job and put on union men at the union wage scale.

Now the possession of a union card is absolutely necessary for a building trades worker to secure employment at any of the A. & P. stores in Atlanta.

INDIVIDUAL AGREEMENTS INCREASE IN SILK STRIKE

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Paterson, N. J.—The American Federation of Silk Workers announced that it would continue to negotiate with individual settlements with several manufacturing concerns here, where a strike of 8,000 broad silk workers has been in effect for some time.

Several large shops out of the 600 whose employes are on strike have signed agreements since the strike began, union officials said.

Employers as a group have so far tenaciously refused to settle the differences with their workers, although it is said that a number of manufacturers have expressed a willingness to negotiate. The union is seeking a rate of $1.94 per 100,000 picks, which is regarded as reasonable.

Union officials state that any employer wishing to settle strikes at their respective plants will be given opportunity to do so. However, picket lines will not be withdrawn from any shop until a contract is signed.